

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 IO-14

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /219 W

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R 111605Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9526

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04620

E.O. 11652: EXEMPT

TAGS: ENRG, ECOM, BE

SUBJECT: ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP MEETING; APRIL

3-4: HMG COMMENT

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REF: STATE 70073

1. TAYLOR (UNDER SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY) BRIEFLY REVIEWED ECG MEETING WHICH HE THOUGHT WENT WELL AND OFFERED HIS VIEWS ON HOW TO APPROACH MORE IMPORTANT TOPICS FOR FUTURE.

2. TAYLOR BELIEVED MAIN PROBLEM WITH US POSITION WAS OUR INSISTENCE THAT THERE BE A PUBLIC STATEMENT HIQH-LIGHTING MUTUAL DEPENDENCY ON CONSUMER SIDE. HE BELIEVED IT MORE IMPORTANT TO AGREE ON A CREDIBLE TRIGGER MECHANISM TO BE BUILT INTO A SHARING ARRANGEMENT. THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO PUBLICIZE THIS SINCE OPEC PRODUCERS WOULD KNOW ABOUT IT SOON ENOUGH. TAYLOR FELT GETTING AUTOMATICITY OF TRIQGER WILL BE DELICATE ENOUGH PROBLEM AND CALL FOR PUBLIC DECLARATION WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. TAYLOR BELIEVED CONSUMER COOPERATION PACKAGE SHOULD BE "IN PLACE" THIS SUMMER BEFORE ONSET OF "AUTUMN DANGER PERIOD" WHEN OIL EMBARGOES MOST APT TO RESULT.

3. TAYLOR BELIEVED SOME SEEDS OF DOUBT WERE BEGINNING TO DEVELOP AMONG ECG STATES ABOUT WHETHER A CONSUMER-PRODUCER CONFERENCE MIQHT ACTUALLY BE NECESSARY. IF OBJECTIVES OF EASING PRICE AND SUPPLY SITUATION SHOULD COME ABOUT IN OTHER WAYS, HE ASKED RHETORICALLY WHETHER A CONFERENCE MIGHT BE NEEDED MERELY TO CUT IN PRODUCERS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION SWEETENERS. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SAY MORE ABOUT THIS AFTER UN SPECIAL SESSION.

4. TAYLOR HASTENED TO ADD THAT ECG STATES IN GENERAL CERTAINLY WANTED SOME KIND OF PRODUCER-CONSUMER CONTACTS AND MOST WERE STILL THINKING IN TERMS OF HOLDING A CONFERENCE. HE NOTED DANISH PENCHANT FOR AN OIL COMMODITY AGREEMENT ON WHICH BOTH US AND UK HAD GRAVE DOUBTS. HE CONCLUDED THAT EDUCATIONAL PROCESS WAS DESIRABLE AND THAT MOST IMPORTANT POINTS WERE TO WORK OUT CONSUMER COOPERATION PACKAGE AND TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH PRODUCERS.

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